



Army Support Requirements



1. If my spouse and I separate am I still required to support him/her?

For Army personnel, US Army Regulation 608-99 required soldiers to support family members during periods of separation unless you fall under one of the exceptions. AR 608-99 provides that unless there is a court order or agreement between the parties, a soldier separated from his or her family members will pay, at a minimum, the Basic Allowances for Quarters (BAQ) at the “with dependents” rate in support. If there is a court order, or a written agreement between the soldier and the spouse, the soldier must pay the amount set forth in the court order or agreement.

2. But BAQ doesn’t exist anymore – it’s now called BAH!

AR 608-99 was written before the change from BAQ to BAH. Where the AR 608-99 uses the words “BAQ-WITH” substitute “BAH-II WITH”.

3. Who enforces AR 608-99 support payments?

The soldier’s commanders enforce the requirement of AR 608-99. Inquiries about nonsupport should be directed in writing to the soldier’s commander. Such inquiries should request a response in writing.

4. What if I don’t receive BAQ? Do I still have to pay an amount equivalent to BAQ to my spouse?

Your obligation to pay the support in AR 608-99 does not depend on your receipt of BAQ.

5. When is the money due?

Support should be paid no later than the first day of the month following the month for which BAQ was, or would have been, received. For example, if a soldier and his wife are separated for the month of October and she does not reside in government quarters, the soldier must pay to his wife BAQ-WITH for the month of October no later than November 1st.

6. How do I make payments?

A soldier may make support payments required by AR 608-99 in any of the following ways: check, money order, electronic fund transfer, voluntary allotment, involuntary allotment, garnishment, or cash. However, cash payments are discouraged. Keep copies of canceled checks and money order receipts to prove that you have paid support in case your spouse makes a nonsupport claim to your commander.

<p>Yongsan Client Legal Services Office, Bldg 4106, room 229 (ACS building). Please call 738-6841/8111 for an appointment. Office hours: M, Tu, W, F 0900-1600 and Th 1300-1500.</p>
--